

Keim Stone Cabin
1.1 miles west of Lobachsville, Pike Township
Lobachsville Vicinity
Berks County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1041

HABS
PA
6-LOBA-V,
2A-

ADDENDUM
1981

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

KEIM STONE CABIN

Location: 1.1 miles west of Lobachsville, Pike Township, Lobachsville
Vicinity, Berks County, Pennsylvania

Present Owner: Charles M. Boyer, Oley R. D., Pennsylvania.

Present Occupant: Vacant

Present Use: Storage

Brief Statement of Significance: A fine example of an early German stone house of the two-room and central-chimney plan.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

This cabin was probably built by Johannes Keim between 1706 and 1732. In 1706 he settled on his claim in the Oley Valley living at first in a log cabin, [Croll], and according to a date marker, the larger house nearby was built in 1732. This smaller house was probably used as the Keim house during this period.

References: Birch, Edith White, The Huguenot Settlers of Pennsylvania, The Historical Review of Berks County, Vol. VI, No. 3 (April, 1941). p. 80.

Croll, P. C., Annals of the Oley Valley (Reading, Penna.: Reading Eagle Press, 1926), pp. 69-74.

Montgomery, R. S., Houses of the Oley Valley, The Dutchman, Vol. VI, No. 3, (winter - 1954, 1955), pp. 16-26.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The Keim stone cabin is a characteristic Pennsylvania-German form, one story and attic, a large central chimney, and with the cellar exposed at one end. The cabin was built on a sloping site, and has a spring flowing through the cellar.

The cabin is now in good condition and is kept in repair by the owner.

The cabin is approximately 17' x 25'. The foundations and walls are of stone, and there is one, large, central chimney of stone.

There are two doors, one opening into the kitchen on the first floor on the west, and one opening into the cellar on the south. These doors are of wide vertical battens. The casement windows are of various sizes, the small ones of one sash of four panes, and the larger ones of twelve panes. Window and door openings have segmental brick arches.

The gable roof has no dormers and is covered with squared and rounded slate of the 19th century.

The lower floor, or cellar, is entered at the south end and is divided into two rooms by a great fireplace facing the entrance.

The first floor is entered on the west side, and is also divided into two rooms, one larger than the other. A steep open stairway rises from the larger room to the large attic space.

The upper floors are of wide, unpainted boards. Those in the cellar are now of concrete. The walls are of plaster. There is some original hardware on the doors.

The cabin is located on the sloping ground to the southeast of the present farmhouse.

Prepared by Drury B. Alexander, Supervisor
Schuylkill Valley Project
University of Pennsylvania
for National Park Service
August 1958.

Addendum to:

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PHOTOGRAPH

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Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.